GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2170
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2016
Shortage of Nephrologists
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of nephrologists due to increased number of chronic kidney patients on account of prevalence of diabetes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of nephrologists in the country at present, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the shortage of nephrologists including assistance to State/ UTs to develop infrastructure facilities to train clinicians to conduct dialysis?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a) to (c) : There is shortage of nephrologists in the country. However, the data related to number of Nephrologists in the country is not maintained centrally.

Public Health being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to provide health care to the people. However, financial and technical assistance is being provided to the States/UTs under the NHM for strengthening existing healthcare facilities including setting up of infrastructure, training of doctors and para medical staff, etc. as per State specific Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

In order to meet the shortage of doctors/ specialists in the country, the Government has already taken a number of steps which include:

i. Relaxation in the norms for setting up of medical college in terms of requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed/ bed strength and other infrastructure.
ii. Enhancement of age limit for appointment/ extension/ re-employment against posts of teachers/dean/principal/ director in medical colleges from 65-70 years.
iii. Financial support to State medical colleges, under the scheme of "Strengthening and Upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges" to increase postgraduate seats in various disciplines or to start new postgraduate medical courses.
iv. DNB qualification has been recognized for appointment as faculty to take care of shortage of faculty.
v. The ratio of teachers to students has been revised from 1:1 to 1:2 for all MD/MS disciplines.
vi. Post graduate and Graduate medical degrees, when both degrees are obtained from five English speaking countries (US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) have been recognized in India. Similarly, PG degrees of these five countries are also recognized.